

## DELEGATED DECISION OFFICER REPORT

AUTHORISATION	INITIALS	DATE
File completed and officer recommendation:	ML	16/07/2018
Planning Development Manager authorisation:	<i>AS</i>	16/7/18
Admin checks / despatch completed	<i>AS</i>	17/7/18

*OK*

**Application:** 18/01034/AGRIC **Town / Parish:** Wix Parish Council

**Applicant:** Mr James Blyth

**Address:** Bluehouse Farm Bluehouse Lane Wix

**Development:** Erection of a general purpose agricultural store.

### 1. Town / Parish Council

Wix Parish Council No comments received

### 2. Consultation Responses

n/a

### 3. Planning History

18/01034/AGRIC Erection of a general purpose agricultural store. Current

### 4. Relevant Policies / Government Guidance

n/a

### Status of the Local Plan

The 'development plan' for Tendring is the 2007 'adopted' Local Plan. Paragraph 215 of the NPPF allows local planning authorities to give due weight to adopted albeit outdated policies according to their degree of consistency with the policies in the NPPF. Paragraph 216 of the NPPF also allows weight to be given to policies in emerging plans according to their stage of preparation, the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies and the degree of consistency with national policy. As of 16th June 2017, the emerging Local Plan for Tendring is the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft.

Section 1 of the Local Plan (which sets out the strategy for growth across North Essex including Tendring, Colchester and Braintree) was examined in January and May 2018 and the Inspector's initial findings were published in June 2018. Importantly the Inspector has confirmed that the housing requirement for Tendring of 550 new homes per annum for the period up to 2033 is based upon sound evidence. There are however concerns, very specifically, about the three 'Garden Communities' proposed in north Essex along the A120 designed to deliver longer-term sustainable growth in the latter half of the plan period and beyond 2033. Further work is required to address the Inspector's concerns and the North Essex Authorities are considering how best to proceed.

With more work required to demonstrate the soundness of the Local Plan, its policies cannot yet carry the full weight of adopted policy, however they can carry some weight in the determination of

planning applications. The examination of Section 2 of the Local Plan will progress once matters in relation to Section 1 have been resolved. Where emerging policies are particularly relevant to a planning application and can be given some weight in line with the principles set out in paragraph 216 of the NPPF, they will be considered and, where appropriate, referred to in decision notices. In general terms however, more weight will be given to policies in the NPPF and the adopted Local Plan.

In relation to housing supply:

The NPPF requires Councils to boost significantly the supply of housing to meet objectively assessed future housing needs in full. In any one year, Councils must be able to identify five years worth of deliverable housing land against their projected housing requirements (plus a 5% or 20% buffer to ensure choice and competition in the market for land). If this is not possible, housing policies are to be considered out of date and the presumption in favour of sustainable development is engaged with applications for housing development needing to be assessed on their merits, whether sites are allocated for development in the Local Plan or not.

The Council can demonstrate, with robust evidence, a five-year supply of deliverable housing sites and this has been confirmed in recent appeal decisions. This is based on a housing requirement of 550 dwellings per annum which has been confirmed as sound by the Inspector for the Local Plan examination. Therefore policies for the supply of housing are not out of date and applications for housing development are to be determined in accordance with the Local Plan.

## **5. Officer Appraisal (including Site Description and Proposal)**

### Site Description

The application site is located on the northern side of Bradfield Road to the west of a private drive that runs down to Bluehouse Farm. The site forms part of a wider agricultural holding which consists of land to the north, east and west of the site. To the south is Pond Hall, which is a Grade II Listed Building set within densely vegetated grounds.

### Description of Proposal

This is a 'prior notification' under Part 6 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended). The applicant is seeking the Council's determination as to whether 'prior approval' is required.

The application proposes an agricultural storage barn for the storage of grain and machinery. The barn would measure 18.2m wide, 24.3m in length and 8.6m to the ridge. The barn would be clad in green metal sheeting with corrugated fibre cement to the roof.

### Assessment

Class A of Part 6 Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 allows works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building or any excavation or engineering operations, which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within an agricultural unit of 5 hectares or more providing that a number of criteria are met, which are related to the location, size and use of the building.

As the area of the agricultural holding is in excess of 5 hectares the proposed extension falls to be considered under Class A.

The proposal may be permitted development. However, details must be submitted to the local planning authority for a determination as to whether the proposal would comply with the criteria set out in Class A and whether the prior approval of the authority will be required to the siting, design and external appearance of the building, as stated in Condition A.2 (2) of Part 6, Class A.

## General Permitted Development Order

The proposed agricultural building is not permitted development if the criteria set out in Part 6 (Class A) cannot be met. This criterion is set out and addressed below;

(a) the development would be carried out on a separate parcel of land forming part of the unit which is less than 1 hectare in area;

The parcel of land where the development is to be located is in excess of 1 hectare.

(b) it would consist of the erection or extension of any agricultural building on an established agricultural unit (as defined in paragraph X of Part 3 of this Schedule) where development under Class Q or S of Part 3 (changes of use) of this Schedule has been carried out within a period of 10 years ending with the date on which development under Class A(a) begins;

Not applicable in this instance.

(c) it would consist of, or include, the erection, extension or alteration of a dwelling;

The proposal is for a storage barn and is not for the erection, extension or alteration of a dwelling.

(d) it would involve the provision of a building, structure or works not designed for agricultural purposes;

The building is clearly designed for agricultural use.

(e) the ground area which would be covered by;

(i) any works or structure (other than a fence) for accommodating livestock or any plant or machinery arising from engineering operations; or

(ii) any building erected or extended or altered by virtue of Class A;

would exceed 1,000 square metres. This includes any development within 90 metres which occurred in the preceding two years.

The proposed building will measure 442 square metres and therefore does not exceed 1000 square metres. There are no other buildings on the holding recently constructed. As such this criteria is met.

(f) the height of any part of any building, structure or works within 3 kilometres of the perimeter of an aerodrome would exceed 3 metres;

The building is 8.6 metres in height but is not within 3 kilometres of the perimeter of an aerodrome.

(g) the height of any part of any building, structure or works not within 3 kilometres of the perimeter of an aerodrome would exceed 12 metres;

The development is not within 3 kilometres of the perimeter of an aerodrome and is 8.6 metres in height.

(h) any part of the development would be within 25 metres of a metalled part of a trunk road or classified road;

The development is not sited within 25 metres of a classified road.

(i) it would consist of, or include, the erection or construction of, or the carrying out of any works to, a building, structure or an excavation used or to be used for the accommodation of livestock or for the storage of slurry or sewage sludge where the building, structure or excavation is, or would be, within 400 metres of the curtilage of a protected building;

The proposed building will not be used for the accommodation of livestock.

(j) it would involve excavations or engineering operations on or over article 2(4) land which are connected with fish farming; or

The proposed building is not to be used in connection with fish farming.

(k) any building for storing fuel for or waste from a biomass boiler or an anaerobic digestion system-

(i) would be used for storing waste not produced by that boiler or system or for storing fuel not produced on land within the unit; or

(ii) is or would be within 400 metres of the curtilage of a protected building.

The proposed building is not to be used for storing fuel for or waste from a biomass boiler or an anaerobic digestion system.

#### Siting

The storage building would be located in an area of the holding that is well enclosed by mature roadside hedging and vegetation on its boundaries. As a result it is considered the impact of the building upon the landscape character would be minimal. To the south of the site is a grade II listed property known as Pond Hall. This property is set within well vegetated grounds and is not visible from the highway. The proposed agricultural building would not be viewed in conjunction with Pond Hall and would therefore not harm its historic setting.

#### Design

The proposed building would have the appearance of a traditional agricultural building. The materials and design proposed are considered to relate acceptably to the rural area and would not appear incongruous in this location given that there are several other agricultural buildings sited in the locality and due to the heavily vegetated nature of the surrounding land.

#### Conclusion

Prior approval is not required by the Local Planning Authority for the siting or design of the above development as it is permitted by Part 6 of Schedule 2 to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015.

### **6. Recommendation**

Prior Approval Not Required

### **7. Reason**

The proposed store building complies with Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) England Order 2015, Schedule 2, Part 6 Agricultural and Forestry and the Council's prior approval is not required for the siting, design or external appearance of the development as proposed.

### **8. Informatives**

<b>Are there any letters to be sent to applicant / agent with the decision? If so please specify:</b>	YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
<b>Are there any third parties to be informed of the decision? If so, please specify:</b>	YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO